



Department of Justice

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Middle District of Florida

Tampa Orlando Jacksonville Ocala Fort Myers
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, August 20, 2010
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**OWNER OF ILLEGAL MONEY TRANSMITTING BUSINESS SENTENCED
TO TWO YEARS PRISON AND ORDERED TO FORFEIT \$690,068.13**

Ocala, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that Senior U.S. District Judge W. Terrell Hodges yesterday sentenced Andrew D. Lemine (54, of Paisley, Florida) to two years in federal prison for operating an unlicensed money transmitting business. The court also ordered Lemine to forfeit \$690,068.13, an amount equal to his proceeds from the offense.

According to court documents, between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2008, Lemine cashed at Sorrento Grocery approximately \$4,065,896.00 in checks from a local construction company in return for a fee of between 1% and 1.5% of the checks' face value. He did so knowing that the owners of the construction company were attempting by cashing the checks through the grocery to conceal their employment of illegal aliens, avoid paying worker's compensation and employment taxes, and hide income from state and federal tax officials.

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Lake County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel W. Eckhart.